

CLAIMS

1. A networked communications apparatus comprising at least one server and a plurality of user stations, wherein the user stations comprise
5 terminals which can receive information from the at least one server by means of a connection via a first network, the apparatus further comprising:

storage means holding a profile database, which profile database contains data representing a characteristic behaviour of an associated user terminal network address or addresses, the data being acquired automatically
10 in response to an activity of the associated user and being stored together with the associated user terminal network address or addresses in the profile database;

wherein the user station further comprises a portable communications device coupled with said terminal and connectable to said at least one server
15 via a second network, wherein the coupling with said terminal is by wireless transmission therefrom, and the portable communications device means for receiving wireless transmissions from the terminal are further configured to receive additional data transmitted wirelessly from other sources than said second network.

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2. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said portable communications device comprises a mobile telephone and said second network is a telecommunications network.

25 3. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the first network is the Internet and the user terminals comprise at least a display device coupled with processor means hosting an Internet browser and user-operable means for control of the same.

4. Apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said wireless transmission of additional data conforms to a predetermined set of communications protocols.

5. A portable communications device for use in the apparatus of Claim 1 and having means for receiving wireless transmissions from said terminal.

6. A portable communications device as claimed in Claim 5, further comprising a buffer arranged to receive and store said additional data transmitted wirelessly.

7. A portable communications device as claimed in Claim 6, further comprising a clock signal source and being arranged to stamp items of received additional data with the time of receipt.

8. A portable communications device as claimed in Claim 5, further comprising user-operable data input means by operation of which the user is enabled to annotate or alter items of received additional data.

9. A communication method for a networked system comprising at least one server and a plurality of user stations, wherein the user stations comprise terminals which can receive information from the at least one server by means of a connection via a first network,

wherein a profile database is provided, which profile database contains data representing a characteristic behaviour of an associated user terminal network address or addresses, the data being acquired automatically in response to an activity of the associated user and being stored together with the associated user terminal network address or addresses in the profile database;

with the user station further comprising a portable communications device coupled with said terminal and connectable to said at least one server

via a second network, the coupling with said terminal is by wireless transmission therefrom, and the portable communications device means for receiving wireless transmissions from the terminal are further configured to receive additional data transmitted wirelessly from other sources than said
5 second network.

10. A method as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the first network is the Internet and the received additional data comprises one or more Uniform Resource Locators.

10 11. A method as claimed in Claim 9, further comprising the provision of a plurality of short range beacons distributed about a geographical location, with each of said beacons transmitting a respective item of said additional data to the or each portable communications device when it is in range.
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